see and co-ordinate the working of different Ministries and take steps to intensify the fight against drug abuse and trafficking.

Government have initiated various aggressive counter measures against drug trafficking which, inter alia, include strengthening of the preventive and intelligence machinery (especially around borders), adoption of liberalised reward scheme for officers and informers and strengthening of bilateral co-operation between neighbouring countries (including regional co-operation under the aegis of SAARC). Special narcotic cells have been set up in all the Customs and Central Excise Collectorates all over the country and state police organisations as well. 704 persons had been arrested for drug-related offences upto June, 1988.

Further, the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Ordinance, 1988 has been promulgated by the President on 4-7-1988. Under this Ordinance, 157 detention orders have so far been issued and 130 persons have been detained in various places, thus immobilising them from indulging in illicit traffic in drugs.

Reduction in Non-Developmental Expenditure

3532. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the austerity measures introduced by Government to counter ever-growing demands on the Budget for non-developmental activities; and

(b) what has been the saving in the last financial year from such measures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) and (b) Government are continuously making efforts to reduce non-developmental expenditure to the barest minimum. The economies effected by the austerity steps include curbing of unproductive expenditure through prioritisation of programmes and activities by Zero base budgeting technique, strict observance of economy in expenditure etc. Suitable instructions for containin expenditure to budgeted levels have also been issued and a close watch is being kept on various trends in expenditure with a view to take corrective action. These measures were intended to reduce expenditure from current levels and moderate demands for additional requirements. Among other factors these were also kept in view while fixing the Revised Estimates of last year for the various Departments which have been presented to Parliament along with Budget Estimates for the current year. Precise quantification of the impact of individual factors is not possible. The economy instructions did help to limit budgetary deficit last year very near to originally estimated deficit inspite of the large additional expenditure on drought relief.

Export of shrimp from Tamil Nadu

3533. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a vast labour force is employed in marine products industry in Tamil Nadu;

(b) what are the reasons for stagnation of shrimp exports from Tamil Nadu; and

(c) whether the high cost of production is partially responsible for stagnation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Shrimp exports from Tamil Nadu have shown a slightly declining trend, mainly due to the decline in shrimp landings, during the last 2 years.

(c) No, Sir.

3534. (Withdrawn).